

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 IO-13 ACDA-07 /098 W  
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R 262233Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7288  
INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
USUN NEW YORK 626  
USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 5429

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: BH UK GT NU HO CS PBOR  
SUBJ: BELIZE CENTRAL AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTER MEET, REAFFIRM  
SOLIDARITY WITH GUATEMALA

1. SUMMARY: LONG-AWAITED MEETING OF CA FONMINS HAD SYMBOLIC  
BALUE FOR GOG. JOINT COMMUNIQUE IT PRODUCED COMBINES  
UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT FOR GUATEMALAN LEGAL POSITION WITH STRESS  
ON DESIRABILITY OF ARRIVING AT NEGOTIATED SOLUTION WHICH TAKES  
INTO ACCOUNT INTERESTS OF THE PARTIES. END SUMMARY

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED . ONE-DAY MEETING OF CENTRAL AMERICAN  
FOREIGN MINISTERS CONVENED AUGUST 25 BY GOG PRODUCED JOINT  
COMMUNIQUE, KEY POINTS OF WHICH FOLLOW:  
A. BELIZE IS "INTEGRAL PART OF GUATEMALA."  
B. GOVERNMENTS PLEDGE UNITY IN SUPPORT OF GUATEMALAN CLAIM  
AND REITERATE "UNRESTRICTED SUPPORT OF GUATEMALA'S LEGITIMATE  
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RIGHTS IN BELIZE."  
C. UNGA RESOLUTION 1514 (XV) ESTABLISHES PRINCIPLE THAT  
"THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLE SHOULD NOT TOTALLY OR  
PARTIALLY BREAK NATIONAL OR A COUNTRY'S TERRITORIAL  
INTEGRITY...."  
D. GOVERNMENTS "ARE PLEASED THAT GUATEMALA AND GREAT  
BRITAIN HAVE DECIDED TO SETTLE THE ISSUE PEACEFULLY IN

ACCORD WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW WITH VIEW TO REACHING A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION RECONCILING GUATEMALA'S RIGHTS AND THE INTERESTS OF THE BELIZEAN PEOPLE";

E. REJECT "INTERFERENCE OF ANY (OTHER ) STATE OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION"; AND

F. EXPRESS CONFIDENCE "IN THE EARLY WITHDRAWAL OF BRITISH MILITARY CONTINGENTS," WHICH WILL CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVED NEGOTIATING CLIMATE.

3. THERE HAS BEEN NO INDICATION THUS FAR THAT MEETING DEALT WITH ANYTHING EXCEPT BELIZE.

4. EXCEPT FOR COSTA RICAN FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO, WHO TOOK PAINS TO DENY ANY BETRAYAL ON COSTA RICA'S PART OF GUATEMALAN INTERESTS AT THE RECENT BOGOTA SUMMIT (GUATEMALA 5041), THE VISITING FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD LITTLE TO SAY PUBLICLY. NICARAGUAN FONMIN MONTIEL ELUDED A PRESS QUESTION DESIGNED TO PROBE NICARAGUA'S WILLINGNESS TO BACK UP ITS MORAL SUPPORT WITH MILITARY SUPPORT IF NECESSARY. GUATEMALAN FOREIGN MINISTER MOLINA DECLARED SATISFACTION WITH THE MEETING AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT AS SOON AS SOMAOZA IS RECOVERED, CENTRAL AMERICAN PRESIDENTS WOULD MEET ON SAME SUBJECT. END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. COMMENT: GUATEMALA SEEMS TO HAVE ACHIEVED LIMITED OBJECTIVE OF BRINGING ITS CENTRAL AMERICAN BRETHREN TOGETHER  
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AND HAVING THEM RATIFY THEIR SUPPORT, WITH A VIEW BOTH TO THE INEVITABLE UN DEBATE ON BELIZE AND THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS WITH THE BRITISH, THERE WAS NO CERTAINTY, AT THE OUTSET, THAT A JOINT COMMUNIQUE WOULD ENSUE. THIS FIRM CENTRAL AMERICAN RESPONSE SHOULD HELP MITIGATE THE DOMESTIC EMBARRASSMENT CAUSED THE LAUGERUD GOVERNMENT BY SUCH EVIDENCE OF SAGGING DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT AS THE BOGOTA SUMMIT DECLARATION.

6. FONMIN'S DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AFFAIRS LUIS ACYINENA, ALSO MEMBER OF BELIZE NEGOTIATING TEAM, TOLD AMBASSADOR LAST EVENING THAT GOG WAS PLEASED AT WAY COMMUNIQUE CAME OUT. HE SAID IT WAS INTENDED TO CONVEY A SENSE OF FLEXIBILITY. PRESUMABLY AYCINENA HAD IN MIND ESPECIALLY THE COMMUNIQUE'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF BELIZEAN INTERESTS, A KEY ELEMENT OF THE JOINT DECLARATION WHICH CONCLUDED LAST MONTH'S VISIT TO GUATEMALA OF UK NEGOTIATOR ROWLANDS.  
BOSTER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009